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## **TRUE AMERICAN HEROES NEED YOUR HELP THIS HOLIDAY SEASON**

**WALL, NJ** - Around the holidays, it's not unusual for people to get the urge to give to a worthy cause. When we take a few moments to reflect on our many blessings, we often want to help others who are less fortunate.

Peter Grandich, founder of Trinity Financial Sports & Entertainment Management Company, recently came across a group of true heroes that have given so much of themselves to help others that many are sick and dying as a result—and they are all but forgotten by society. Who are these heroes? They are the September 11<sup>th</sup> World Trade Center first responders. Grandich learned of their plight from the Long Island, NY-based FealGood Foundation, and immediately wanted to help.

“It’s an American tragedy that has gripped my heart,” says Grandich, whose company is based in Wall, NJ. “Of the 40,000 people who responded to Ground Zero after the attacks, 70 percent—or 33,000—are sick or dying as a result of their service. We are talking about thousands of EMTs, EMS workers, police, fire, military, construction workers and volunteers from all over the country who now suffer from breathing and lung ailments, post-traumatic stress disorder, organ failure and other horrific physical and mental illnesses.”

Even sadder, he points out, is that there are no federal funds to help these heroes. Many of the sick can no longer work, cannot pay their medical bills, and are at risk of losing everything – at a time when their primary concern should be staying alive.

John Feal, founder of the FealGood Foundation, says, “These people risked their lives without prejudice. There is no money in the world that is going to save their lives, but we can give them a little compassion and respect. We give them a safety and support system and give them hope.”

Feal is himself a 9/11 first responder. One of the many to be injured at “The Pile,” as he calls it, he had his foot amputated and underwent months and months of therapy to

recover from the ordeal. Like many 9/11 responders, he now suffers from breathing ailments as a result of his work at the site, and can no longer work.

Yet, in 2005, he started the FealGood Foundation to help those who are so much worse off than he is. Although he may no longer be able to work a “job,” John Feal has made it his daily mission to help other survivors and advocate on their behalf. He even donated a kidney to another first responder—a man he had never met—whose kidneys failed because of his 9/11 service.

“In 2001, on Sept. 11, everybody was patriotic and everybody wanted to help,” Feal said. “You don’t need a plane to hit a building to be compassionate.”

### **TRINITY FINANCIAL OFFERS SUPPORT:**

Though Grandich’s financial firm is now located in New Jersey, he spent many years working on Wall Street in the shadows of the Trade Center’s twin towers. So, when he heard of this remarkable organization and the plight of those heroic people who helped our nation heal after the horrifying attacks, Peter Grandich committed to putting all his efforts and resources behind the group.

“As an American and a native New Yorker, I’m extremely upset that the true heroes of America’s greatest single tragedy are being totally discarded and left to literally die,” says Grandich. “And, despite this truly appalling occurrence, not one of them has been known to say if they had to do it all over again, they wouldn’t. In fact, they emphatically and courageously state they would do it again—no ifs, ands or buts. That’s beyond any call of duty and deserving of every American’s immediate attention and help.”

So he put his money where his mouth is and made a sizeable donation to the organization. He has also spent the past several weeks recruiting friends and business associates to join him, including several big-name athletes who are on his company’s advisory board.

“Trinity Financial has two separate divisions – one that assists the average American and one to serve the unique needs of professional athletes. So, we have been blessed to have many athletes associated with the firm, and each of those men is happy to help the FealGood Foundation in whatever ways they can,” he says.

One of the athletes is Joe Klecko, the former NY Jet Defensive star, four-time All-Pro, member of the feared “NY Sack Exchange” and the only defensive NFL player to go to the Pro Bowl in three different positions.

“People look up to football players and call us heroes. We’re not heroes – the real heroes are the men and women who spent months sifting through the rubble to find survivors and victims. The real heroes are the police and fire and military who put their lives on the line for our safety every day. We owe them a debt of gratitude and I am happy to lend my name to the effort,” Klecko says.

Another of Grandich's advisory board members and FealGood supporters is two-time SuperBowl winning NY Giant Lee Rouson, who co-founded the company with Grandich.

"Helping others was a major focus from day one at Trinity Financial. The Bible tells us in John 15:13-14 'Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends...' The 9/11 responders have done so and are deserving of our government and its people to help them now for helping us in our time of need," says Rouson.

Grandich says he hopes that by stirring up support for the non-profit more people will step forward with donations of money, Christmas toys, pro bono services, and even organ donations for the 9/11 responders.

"They helped America without even questioning if it was in their best interest. Now it's time for America to help them," he says.

### **HOW YOU CAN HELP:**

Those who wish to help the FealGood Foundation, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, can send donations to FealGood Foundation, 144 Shenandoah Blvd Nesconset, New York 11767. All donations go to helping those afflicted pay medical bills, help families stay together, pay utilities, and give dignity and respect to true American heroes that have been all but forgotten in the years since the attacks. Each December, the organization also provides Christmas and Hanukah gifts to numerous families of 9/11 responders.

To learn more about the organization, please log on to their website at [www.FealGoodFoundation.com](http://www.FealGoodFoundation.com). For more information, contact Peter Grandich at 732-642-3992 or email him through his website at [www.TrinityFSEM.com](http://www.TrinityFSEM.com).

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